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THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 8 February 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to append herewith a statement adopted by the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the latest massacre of Bosnian civilians in Sarajevo by the Serb gunners on 5 February 1994 (see annex).

I would appreciate if you could kindly have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jamsheed K. A. MARKER
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Pakistan to the United Nations
and Chairman of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia
and Herzegovina in New York

ANNEX

Statement adopted on 8 February 1994 by the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the latest massacre of Bosnian civilians in Sarajevo

The Governments and the peoples of member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) express their outrage and strong condemnation at the barbaric massacre of Bosnian civilians in Sarajevo by the Serbian gunners on 5 February 1994, which left over 66 persons martyred and over 200 seriously injured. The fact that this terrorist bombing took place a day after a similar attack on the suburb of Dobrinja, killing nine and wounding 26 people, and has been a part of an ongoing genocidal campaign, reflects open defiance and contempt of the will of the international community by the Serbian side.

The Governments and the peoples of the member States of the OIC express their heartfelt anguish, condolences and sympathy to the Government and the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina and their bereaved families. They express their deep disappointment at the lack of resolute action by the international community, as mandated to defend the civilian population of Sarajevo, a city declared as a "safe area" by Security Council resolution 824 (1993), from the savage aggression of the Bosnian Serbs.

The OIC member States reiterate that Security Council resolution 836 (1993) provides a clear legal framework for using all necessary means, including the use of air strikes against the Serbian positions, particularly those around Sarajevo. In this context, they welcome the letter sent by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), requesting him to obtain authorization from the NATO Council for launching air strikes against the artillery positions in and around Sarajevo, and urge NATO to act accordingly for securing Serbian compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. They appeal to the leadership of the member States of NATO to uphold the will of the international community without further loss of time.

They reaffirm the Declaration adopted by the Ministerial Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina, held at Geneva on 17 January 1994. They express their resolve that, in case the international community fails to fulfil its moral, political and legal responsibility to use air strikes against the Serbian aggressors in the immediate future, they would launch a renewed and vigorous campaign to ensure that the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is not prevented from exercising its inherent right to self-defence under Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

The OIC member States will remain actively seized of the matter.